COMMENT ON:

Notice of Proposed Rule Making and Order (NPRM&O) in WT Docket 05-235

I believe that the morse code element-1 requirement should be kept as a requirement for the Amateur Service "Extra Class" only.

It is my belief that arguments can be made either way pro or con in regards to retaining the morse code requirement. In the current situation where as morse code is not required for the technician class, a number of amateur radio operators came to be due to the "no code" requirement. Some may argue that the amateur service has been degraded due to the "no code" requirement, but the same argument can be made about individuals that are not involved in the Amateur Service due to fear of not passing the 5 wpm morse code requirement. As a member of the ARRL and a volunteer examiner, I encounter this fear regularly.

As many other countries have now dropped the morse code requirement, it is time that this great country of ours enjoy the past but move on and become more current with today's times. Morse code is a great form of communication, but should not be required for access to the Technician and General privileges. If morse code is required, then perhaps other modes of communications should be required such as packet, APRS, etc. It is time that we move into the future and bring more people into this great service which provides many types of community service and involvement.

I support the Proposed Rule Change to eliminate the morse code requirement for all Amateur Service licenses with the exception of the Amateur Extra Class. I believe that the Amateur Extra Class should require that an individual possess the knowledge of "all" forms of communications involving the Amateur Service.

Peter Johnson, Sr. PO Box 76 Marinette, WI 54143